

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 5, 2005

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to the exchange of notes of October 28, 1980, and December 5, 1980, between our Governments, constituting an Agreement providing for coordination of the icebreaking activities of Canada and the United States of America on the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Seaway System (the “1980 Agreement”). I have the further honor to refer to the exchanges of notes of December 4, 1990, December 5, 1995, and December 4, 2000, between our Governments, each providing for the renewal of the December 5, 1980, Agreement for additional five-year periods.

His Excellency
Francis Joseph McKenna,
Ambassador of Canada.

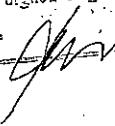
The 1980 Agreement, as renewed, has been beneficial to both our countries and has helped to promote our shared objective of maintaining open routes for maritime commerce in ice-covered waters. Accordingly, I have the honor to propose that our Governments agree to renew the 1980 Agreement under the conditions set forth in the Annex to the 1980 Exchange of Notes, for an additional period of five years beginning December 5, 2005.

If the proposal set forth in this Note is acceptable to your Government, I have the honor to propose that this note and your reply to that effect shall constitute an Agreement between our Governments, which shall enter into force on December 5, 2005, and shall continue in force for a period of five years.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State:



A true copy of
the signed origi-
nal. 

Canadian Embassy



Ambassade du Canada
501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20001

December 5, 2005

Her Excellency Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Madam Secretary,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note dated December 5, 2005, which states in its entirety as follows:

"Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to the Exchange of Notes of October 28, 1980, and December 5, 1980, between our Governments, constituting an Agreement providing for coordination of the icebreaking activities of Canada and the United States of America on the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Seaway System (the "1980 Agreement"). I have the further honor to refer to the Exchanges of Notes of December 4, 1990, December 5, 1995, and December 4, 2000, between our two Governments, each providing for the renewal of the December 5, 1980 Agreement for additional five year periods.

The 1980 Agreement, as renewed, has been beneficial to both our countries and has helped to promote our shared objective of maintaining open routes for maritime commerce in ice-covered waters. Accordingly, I have the honor to propose that our Governments agree to renew the 1980 Agreement under the conditions set forth in the Annex to the 1980 Exchange of Notes, for an additional period of five years beginning December 5, 2005.

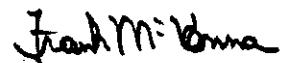
*Her Excellency Condoleezza Rice,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.*

If the proposal set forth in this Note is acceptable to your Government, I have the honor to propose that this Note and your reply to that effect shall constitute an Agreement between our Governments, which shall enter into force on December 5, 2005, and shall continue in force for a period of five years.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration."

I am pleased to inform you that the Government of Canada accepts the proposal set forth in your Note. The Government of Canada further agrees that your Note, together with this reply, which is authentic in English and French, shall constitute an Agreement between Canada and the United States of America, which shall enter into force on December 5, 2005, and shall continue in force for a period of five years.

Accept, Madam Secretary, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.



Frank McKenna
Ambassador of Canada